

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A tool for making in workpieces cuts having predetermined widths and bounded by walls, in combination with a manually operable apparatus having a power driven output shaft arranged to oscillate about a predetermined axis and a fastener attaching said tool to the output shaft, the fastener having a thickness, said tool comprising:

an elongated member having a rearward first section, with a hole extending through said first section and having a closed rear wall formed by material from which said first section is made, said hole being configured to be mounted on said output shaft with a the fastener ~~having a predetermined thickness~~ so that the member extends in a direction at least substantially normal to said predetermined axis; and

a forward second section remote from said first section and including at least one at least substantially straight elongated cutting edge at least substantially normal to said direction and arranged to make in a workpiece a cut having a width which is a function of the extent of oscillatory movement of said output shaft, of the distance from said axis to said cutting edge and of the length of said cutting edge;

wherein said elongated member comprises a step of finite length at least equal to the thickness of the fastener intermediate said first and second sections thereof;

wherein said step of finite length is configured so that said first and second sections of said elongated member extend substantially parallel to each other, so that a plane substantially normal to said predetermined axis defined by said second section is further from the manually driven apparatus than a plane substantially normal to said predetermined axis defined by said first section, whereby the plane defined by said second section is closer to the workpiece during use of the tool than is the plane defined by said first section, and so that said cutting edge extends in the plane defined by ~~of~~ said second section.

2. (original) The tool of claim 1, wherein said cutting edge is provided with material removing elements selected from the group consisting of cutting and grinding elements.

3. (original) The tool of claim 2, wherein said material removing elements comprise teeth.

4. (original) The tool of claim 2, wherein said material removing elements comprise industrial diamonds.

5. (original) The tool of claim 2, wherein said material removing elements comprise corundum.

6. (original) The tool of claim 1, wherein said at least one at least straight cutting edge comprises two adjoining sections disposed at an acute angle to each other.

7. (original) The tool of claim 6, wherein said acute angle is between about 1.5° and about 4.6° .

8. (original) The tool of claim 7, wherein said acute angle is between about 1.5° and about 2° .

9. (original) The tool of claim 1, wherein at least a major part of said elongated member is flat.

10. (cancelled)

11. (cancelled)

12. (cancelled)

13. (previously presented) The tool of claim 1, wherein said elongated member is configured with at least one elongated path that facilitates rearward movement,

along said path, of material being cut from the workpiece by said cutting edge, as well as removal of the material being cut, and wherein said at least one path is provided by at least one slot that extends between said first and second sections.

14. (previously presented) The tool of claim 1, wherein said at least one cutting edge has first and second ends and recessed portions are provided at said ends of said at least one cutting edge intermediate said first and second sections.

15. (original) The tool of claim 1, wherein said elongated member has an at least substantially constant width at least between said first and second sections thereof.

16. (original) The tool of claim 1, wherein said member has a substantially trapeziform outline.

17. (original) The tool of claim 1, wherein said elongated member further comprises a third section disposed between said first and second sections and having a first width, at least one of said first and second sections having a second width different from said first width.

18-24. (cancelled)

25. (currently amended) A manually operable material removing apparatus comprising a power-driven output shaft arranged to oscillate about a predetermined axis, comprising a tool for making in workpieces cuts having predetermined widths and bounded by walls and a fastener attaching said tool to the output shaft, the fastener having a thickness, said tool comprising:

an elongated member having a rearward first section, with a hole extending through said first section and having a closed rear wall formed by material from which said first section is made, said hole being configured to be mounted on said output shaft with a the fastener having a predetermined thickness with so that the member extends in a direction at least substantially normal to said predetermined axis; and

a forward section remote from said first section and including at least one at least substantially straight elongated cutting edge at least substantially normal to said direction and arranged to make in a workpiece a cut having a width which is a function of the extent of oscillatory movement of said output shaft, of the distance from said axis to said cutting edge and of the length of said cutting edge;

wherein said elongated member comprises a step of finite length at least equal to the thickness of the fastener intermediate said first and second sections thereof:

wherein said step of finite length is configured so that said first and second sections of said elongated member extend substantially parallel to each other, so

that a plane substantially normal to said predetermined axis defined by said
second section is further from the manually driven apparatus than a plane
substantially normal to said predetermined axis defined by said first section,
whereby the plane defined by said second section is closer to the workpiece
during use of the apparatus than is the plane defined by said first section, and so
that said cutting edge extends in the plane defined by ~~of~~ said second section.